

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) For use in on an ad hoc temporary incident area network
~~a standard transceiver, said standard transceiver having no self-configuring capability for configuring itself to a communications format and frequency;~~
~~a standalone add-on module for providing transceiver interoperability coupled to a said transceiver to automatically convert audio information available from a said standard transceiver to a common format and frequency assigned to equipment operating on the temporary incident area network without using direct sensor data transmission, thus to assure that all standard receivers on said ad hoc temporary incident network can intercommunicate;~~
a sensor coupled to one of said module for coupling sensor data to said module;
a circuit at said module for uploading sensor data to said network; and,
~~means a downloading unit at a node for downloading the sensor data carried by said network and for displaying said sensor data at said node, thus to reliably provide sensor data by using said network.~~
2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, and further including a camera at said module for providing image signals as an output thereof, said uploading circuit uploading said image signals.
3. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said image signals include video signals.

4. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said image signals include still picture signals.
5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said sensor is taken from the group consisting of location sensors, oxygen tank sensors, gas sensors, HAZMAT sensors, photo-ionization sensors and biometric sensors.
6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, and further including an incident commander terminal having a display coupled to said node and wherein the sensor data transmitted over said network is displayed for said incident commander at the associated incident commander display terminal, thereby to provide said incident commander with situational awareness based on said sensor data.
7. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein said module has a location and wherein said sensor data includes information relating to the location of said module and wherein said display includes a map and an icon indicating the location of said module.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~In~~ On an ad hoc temporary incident area network having equipment operating thereon:

~~modules at nodes of said incident area network for automatically converting verbal communications from a standard transceiver to a common frequency and format assigned to equipment operating on said temporary incident area network;~~

~~— man portable apparatus for providing situational awareness to an individual at a node on said network including:~~

a standard handheld transceiver having audio in, audio out and push-to-talk outputs available external thereto said standard handheld transceiver having no self-configuring capability for configuring itself to a communications format and frequencies; and,

a mini add-on module adapted to be carried by said transceiver and coupled to said outputs for at least automatically converting verbal communications associated with said transceiver to the frequency and format compatible with said network, said mini module including circuits for transmitting said verbal communications between modules over said network.

9. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein said transceiver includes a battery and an external power connection contact and wherein said mini module includes a power input connection contact coupled to said external power connection contact for the powering of said mini module from the battery of said transceiver.

10. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8, and further including a sensor coupled to said mini module, said mini module including a circuit for uploading data from said sensor to said network.

11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, and further including a predetermined number uniquely identifying said mini module, and wherein said uploading circuit uploads said unique identifying number.

12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 11, and further including a camera coupled to said mini module and wherein said uploading circuit includes a circuit for uploading the output from said camera to said network.

13. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein said camera is taken from a group consisting of video cameras and still cameras.

14. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8, and further including wearable sensors coupled to said mini module adapted to be worn by the individual using said transceiver, said sensors coupling data collected by a sensor that relates to events in the immediate vicinity of said individual to said mini module, whereby sensor data uploaded to said network and available at a node thereof is downloadable to said node for providing situational awareness of conditions in the incident scene at said individual, thus to provide situational awareness based on sensed conditions at said individual.

15. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said sensor includes a camera, whereby images in the vicinity of said individual are transmitted over said network to said node to support situational awareness.

16. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 14, and further including a local wireless network for coupling said sensor to said mini module, whereby said sensor can be worn by said individual and wirelessly connected to said mini module.

17. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said wireless network includes a Blue Tooth network.

18. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, and further including a wireless headset communicating with said mini module, whereby verbal communications can be established between said mini module and said network regardless of said transceiver.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)